

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 USBERL 02296 171446Z

42 L

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AS-01 SAJ-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

L-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /052 W

----- 044355

R 171355Z NOV 75

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1666

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSAFE

CINCEUR

S E C R E T USBERLIN 2296

MILITARY ADDRESSEES FOR POLADS, J-2, DCSI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, UR

SUBJECT: PUBLICITY WINDS DOWN IN VYATKIN SPY CASE

REF: USBERLIN 2155

1. SUMMARY: CLIMAX OF WESTHBERLIN PRESS CAMPAIGN AGAINST SOV ESPIONAGE IN WEST BERLIN SEEMS TO HAVE PASSED. IT HAS BEEN UNCOMFORTABLE FOR SOVS, BUT THEY HAVE REACTED STOICALLY, AND SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO RETALIATION AGAINST ALLIES. END SUMMARY.

2. AFTER ALMOST A MONTH THE MORGENPOST (SPRINGER PUBLICATION) CAMPAIGN AGAINST SOVIET ESPIONAGE IN WEST BERLIN IS APPARENTLY CLOSING DOWN. THE NEWSPAPER RAN THREE WEEKS OF REVELATIONS BY THE WEST BERLINER RHEINHARD, WHO WAS RECRUITED BY INTOURIST EMPLOYEE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 USBERL 02296 171446Z

SERGEI VYATKIN. NEWSPAPER SERIES WAS DULL AND

REPETITIVE, BUT IT KEPT MATTER ALIVE, AND MAY HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTIVE TO MAN IN THE STREET ABOUT SOV ENLISTMENT TECHNIQUES.

3. SOVS WERE PARTICULARLY IRRITATED BY AGGRESSIVE PHOTOGRAPHIC AND TV COVERAGE TEAMS, WHICH FOR SOME WEEKS DISTURBED THEM AT HOME AND AT WORK. ON NOV 5 SOV CONSUL KOSOBRODOV COMPLAINED TO SENAT ABOUT THIS HARRASSMENT, CITING ONE EXAMPLE OF PHOTOGRAPHER CLIMBING ONTO BALCONY TO TAKE PICTURES OF SOV APARTMENT INTERIOR. JUST AS ANTI-SOV PRESS COMMENT WAS DECLINING, APPEARANCE OF NVA VEHICLES IN SOV WAR MEMORIAL CEREMONY ON NOV 7 GAVE IT NEW BUT SHORT-LIVED FILLIP. BUT EVEN THIS HAS DISAPPEARED FROM FRONT PAGES.

4. GERMAN TV SHOW ON NOV 12 WAS DEVOTED TO VYATKIN AFFAIR, AND CONTAINED TV CAMERA COVERAGE REFERRED TO IN PARA 2. AS EXPECTED, IT WAS STRIDENT. IT WENT BEYOND THE NEWSPAPER STORIES IN IDENTIFYING KOSOBRODOV AND INTOURIST DEPUTY CHIEF YANKUNAS AS KGB AGENTS, AND IN ADDITION RAN NUMEROUS PHOTOS OF SOV JOURNALISTS WHO ARE OR RECENTLY HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN WEST BERLIN, WITH IMPLICATION THEY ARE ALSO FROM KGB. IT ATTRIBUTED EXPULSION OF VYATKIN TO UK AUTHORITIES, AND FALSELY REPORTED THAT BRITISH WERE NOW PROPOSING TO DEMAND RECALL OF KOSOBRODOV. IT ALSO ATTRIBUTED TO FRENCH AMBASSADOR WOOMSER A FORMAL COMPLAINT TO ABRASIMOV ABOUT MISUSE OF THE INTOURIST OFFICE FOR ESPIONAGE. THIS IS ALSO INCORRECT, SO FAR AS WE ARE INFORMED. NO US ROLE WAS MENTIONED.

6. IT HAS BEEN A BRUISING MONTH FOR SOV PUBLIC RELATIONS IN WEST BERLIN, BUT THE RUSSIAN DISPLEASURE CONVEYED TO ALLIES HAS BEEN RATHER NUTED. IN FACT, ABRASIMOV DID NOT MENTION VYATKIN CASE TO UK AMBASSADOR WRIGHT ON NOV 10, NOR DID KHOTULEV TO US POLAD ON NOV 13, EVEN THOUGH HE WOULD HAVE HAD TIME TO DIGEST NOV 12 TV SHOW. HAVING SUFFERED THROUGH IT, THEY NOW HOPE THE PUBLIC TRACES WILL DISSIPATE AND DISAPPEAR. SO FAR THER HAVE BEEN NO  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 USBERL 02296 171446Z

BERLIN-ASSOCIATED INCIDENTS WHICH WE CAN IDENTIFY AS RETALIATION FOR THE VYATKIN EXPULSION.

7. USCOB CONCURS. GEORGE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ALLEGATIONS, ESPIONAGE AGENTS, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975USBERL02296  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750399-1191  
**From:** USBERLIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751138/aaaabidm.tel  
**Line Count:** 111  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 USBERLIN 2155  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2003 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PUBLICITY WINDS DOWN IN VYATKIN SPY CASE  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PFOR, WB, UR, (VYATKIN, SERGEY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006